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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: CLAUS SCHIERZ ET AL-1 (PCT)

PCT No.: PCT/EP 99/09881 FILED: DECEMBER 14, 1999

TITLE: BEARING MAT FOR SUPPORTING AN EXHAUST GAS CATALYST

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Ass't. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2";

Claim 4, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 3" and insert --claim 1--;

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the multiple dependency of certain of the dependent claims has been removed so as to avoid the surcharge associated therewith. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.